



Adaptive Capacity Technical Assistance and Peer Learning Project

Program Details

The *Adaptive Capacity Technical Assistance and Peer Learning Project* is a 3-year initiative managed by Families In Schools (FIS) targeting nonprofits in the San Joaquin Valley (SJV) focused on the concept of adaptive capacity: a nonprofit's ability to be responsive, innovative, and adaptive to internal and external forces. The project is grounded on the idea that adaptive capacity helps nonprofits be more effective in serving their target population. Ultimately, this project seeks to help nonprofits better address the needs and concerns of people of color and low-income communities in SJV. The project will target nonprofits that work in the areas of education, youth, children or families.

The *Adaptive Capacity Technical Assistance and Peer Learning Project* is supported by a grant from The Community Leadership Project, a joint effort funded by The David and Lucile Packard, James Irvine, and William and Flora Hewlett foundations.

FIS will hold an informational call for interested organizations on **February 10, 2010 at 11AM**. To receive the call-in number and/or to request additional information, contact Melyora Trujillo at 213-484-2870 x241 or by email at mtrujillo@familiesinschools.org. Download application from: www.educationadvocacy.wordpress.com / www.familiesinschools.org

Activities

Each year, a cohort of 15 nonprofit organizations from the SJV will:

- Participate in three workshops focused on such topics as program evaluation, research, understanding data, the role of nonprofits in advocacy, advocacy through collaboratives and networks, and the use logic models to guide success.
- Develop a plan on how to incorporate adaptive capacity strategies into their day-to-day work.
- Participate in a peer learning event whereby participants network and exchange experiences and adaptive capacity plans.

Selection

In order to participate in this project, interested organizations must meet the following requirements:

- Hold 501(c)3 nonprofit status with at least 3 years of incorporation
- Located and serving communities within the San Joaquin Valley (counties: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare)
- Serve low-income and communities of color
- Have an annual budget of more than \$75,000
- Focus on at least one of the following programmatic areas: education, youth, children or families
- Complete and submit the application form by **February 24, 2010**.

Organizational Commitment

If selected, organizations must commit to:

1. Completing the adaptive capacity assessment tool
2. Participating in three capacity building workshops (at least 2 representatives per organization)
3. Participating in one peer learning meeting to be held at the end of the project year (at least 2 representatives per organization)
4. Developing an adaptive capacity plan for the organization
5. Maintaining regular communication with FIS

Fees

The project has a participation fee of \$150.00 per organization. This fee will be used to offset costs related to workshop meals, travel and arrangements.